



Tennessee Crop Weather

Tennessee Field Office • PO Box 41505 • Nashville, TN 37204 • (615) 781-5300 • www.nass.usda.gov
In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Issued Monday 3:00 PM; May 14, 2012

For the week ending May 13, 2012

WEEKEND SHOWERS WELCOMED BY FARMERS

Showers and thunderstorms provided some needed relief this weekend, but it has been so dry recently that all regions of the state continue to need a general soaking rain. Crops continue to develop at a rapid rate well ahead of normal. Corn planting is complete, all emerged and in mostly good condition. Cotton and soybean planting and tobacco transplanting were the main farm activities last week. Fertilizing, spraying post-emergence herbicides and hay harvest were also major farm activities. The wheat crop is ripening and farmers expect to begin harvest within the next two weeks. Strawberry harvest is on-going. Pastures are in fair-to-good condition.

There were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork across the state. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 12 percent very short, 30 percent short, 56 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 10 percent very short, 31 percent short, 58 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. Temperatures across the state averaged near to slightly above normal. Rainfall amounts averaged above normal in the middle region and below normal across the remainder of the state.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2011	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Emerged	99	92	39	66	Corn	0	5	22	60	13
Cotton – Planted	52	29	13	24	Pastures	2	13	33	46	6
Hay – 1 st Cutting	46	37	14	17	Winter Wheat	1	5	23	48	23
Soybeans – Planted	35	23	7	14						
Soybeans – Emerged	19	5	1	4						
Tobacco – Transplanted	21	n/a	9	11						
Winter Wheat – Turning Color	79	49	7	5						
Winter Wheat – Ripe	14	n/a	0	3						

n/a= not available

County Agent Comments

“Corn planting is done. Need a good rain. Soybean planting has begun at a moderate pace. Cotton planting also at moderate pace with more to come. Wheat changing color rapidly with dry weather. We probably see some trying to harvest some in about two weeks. Producers busy catching up on needed spraying from pre-emergence applications not working as well as needed due to lack of rainfall for activation.”

Tim Campbell, Dyer County

“Top soil moisture is gone and planting has ceased.”

Greg Allen, Lake County

“Lauderdale County got a much need rain last week and could use a slow soaker this week. Farmers continue to have good planting weather for Soybeans and Cotton. Corn planting for the county is complete and several producers are finished planting beans, as well. Cotton planting is well underway. Pastures overall are in good condition with a few areas becoming dry. Farmers are cutting hay this week.”

J.C. Dupree, Lauderdale County

“A general rain (1/2-1”) across the county was very welcome. Winds have made herbicide applications difficult.”

Richard Buntin, Crockett County

“Producers have made great strides in planting soybeans with little to no precipitation delays. Soil moisture is becoming a limiting factor for both soybean seeding and established corn crops. Producers have been busy applying post-emerge weed control herbicides in corn, side-dressing nitrogen in corn and planting soybeans.”

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“Some spotty showers but not enough to help with drought type conditions that are becoming more prevalent. Some folks are saying this is the driest early May they have seen. Soil crust is preventing no-till drilling.”

Ruth Correll, Wilson County

“Soybean planting has been halted due to dry conditions.”

Steve Harris, Coffee County

“With the exception of the far western portion of the County it was another dry week. Isolated thunderstorms on Saturday (05/05) and Sunday (05/06) produced from 1.0 to 2.0 inches of rain in the far western portion of the county giving much relief to crop and planting progress. Showers this past weekend (05/12-13) produced general rain producing from 0.5 to nearly one inch in isolated areas. Despite dry conditions the corn crop is holding on and making slow progress. The wheat crop continues to rapidly ripen, Cotton and soybean planting has slowed and emergence has been sporadic. Pastures need water.”

Ed Burns, Franklin County

“Another dry week. Planting has stopped. Farmers reporting 50% to 30% hay yield compared to last spring. Fertilizing, spraying and hay harvest major activities for week. Need rain desperately.”

Dale Beaty, Warren County

“Rain showers early and late in the week brought welcome moisture, more is needed. Strawberry crop still looks good.”

John Wilson, Blount County

“Two 3/10 inch showers this week has helped. Most corn planting is complete. Wheat is beginning to yellow. Corn looks better. Rain forecasts have hindered hay cutting/baling.”

John Goddard, Loudon County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
 For week ending: May 13, 2012 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending May 13, 2012				Current Week 5/13/12	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	92	47	67	-1	1.87	4	15.50	-6.42	5.00	-2.97
Brownsville_TN	92	50	68	2	1.70	4	12.98	-8.84	2.74	-5.12
Covington	91	50	67	-1	1.89	3	15.47	-6.32	3.33	-4.60
Dyersburg	91	52	69	2	0.34	3	12.26	-7.49	3.12	-3.65
Huntingdon_Wate	88	48	67	2	0.10	1	11.44	-9.36	2.75	-4.13
Jackson_Exp_Stn	92	48	68	3	1.09	4	13.45	-7.46	2.51	-4.97
Lexington_TN	87	46	67	2	0.55	2	14.17	-6.01	3.02	-3.81
Martin	90	48	68	3	0.84	3	14.50	-6.02	3.74	-3.37
Memphis_AG	94	52	69	-1	4.00	5	16.08	-5.29	5.03	-2.67
Milan	90	46	68	3	0.34	2	12.33	-8.72	1.82	-5.44
Paris	88	46	65	2	0.16	2	12.43	-8.07	2.73	-4.09
Savannah_6SW	90	47	68	1	3.40	5	20.38	-3.21	7.42	-0.53
Selmer	93	48	67	2	1.26	5	15.97	-7.43	3.18	-4.80
Union_City	90	48	67	2	1.50	2	12.91	-7.32	3.31	-3.57
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	82	45	64	-1	1.20	2	12.40	-7.67	3.02	-3.23
Cookeville	89	42	64	2	0.74	3	18.18	-3.99	3.05	-3.92
Crossville_AP	85	41	64	3	0.52	4	16.74	-5.47	2.23	-4.78
Dickson_AG	78	47	64	-2	2.03	2	15.38	-6.04	3.58	-3.66
Dover_1W	87	47	66	3	0.58	2	14.11	-6.88	3.42	-3.50
Fayetteville_TN	85	44	68	4	1.32	3	18.60	-3.67	3.61	-3.21
Jamestown	84	39	63	2	1.16	4	19.62	-0.94	3.90	-2.67
Kingston_Spring	89	46	66	3	2.05	2	15.84	-4.81	4.89	-1.63
Lewisburg	90	39	65	2	1.30	2	13.01	-8.84	2.32	-4.79
Livingston_WLIV	86	43	64	2	1.17	4	19.46	-0.70	3.21	-3.28
Lobelville	87	45	66	2	0.68	1	14.43	-7.97	3.80	-3.44
Murfreesboro_5N	91	42	66	2	1.54	4	14.80	-5.92	2.69	-4.09
Nashville_Metro	91	47	69	3	1.60	1	15.90	-2.96	4.85	-1.62
Oneida	85	42	64	5	1.32	3	21.15	0.46	4.25	-2.42
Portland_TN	86	46	66	3	1.32	2	15.44	-4.54	3.76	-2.76
Pulaski_Water_P	87	44	65	-2	1.51	3	16.10	-6.07	4.87	-1.73
Shelbyville	81	48	67	2	0.51	4	15.78	-6.13	1.86	-5.00
Sparta_TN	89	41	66	3	1.24	4	15.33	-6.28	2.35	-4.54
Springfield	87	45	65	3	3.75	4	18.77	-0.62	7.08	0.72
Springhill	91	41	65	3	1.16	2	14.80	-7.48	3.71	-3.78
Tullahoma	80	48	67	3	1.09	3	15.53	-7.77	2.16	-5.00
Waynesboro_TN	89	47	67	4	1.68	5	16.66	-7.10	4.82	-2.98
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	90	49	70	5	0.42	4	15.84	-6.24	1.51	-4.67
Cleveland_6NNE	84	45	65	2	0.53	4	13.97	-8.18	1.49	-4.93
Dayton	86	46	67	3	0.63	3	16.02	-6.96	1.69	-5.09
Erwin_1W	82	41	63	3	0.46	3	16.37	-1.20	5.67	-0.25
Gatlinburg_2SW	82	41	63	3	1.63	5	24.94	4.41	8.00	1.56
Greeneville	83	41	65	3	0.54	3	17.53	1.67	6.41	1.36
Kingston_AG	87	45	66	4	0.90	3	18.53	-4.51	3.55	-3.24
Knoxville_AP	85	47	68	4	0.16	3	20.12	1.26	4.33	-1.07
Newcomb	84	40	63	4	1.00	4	21.41	0.72	4.95	-1.72
Norris_4NE	85	42	64	2	0.41	3	22.02	1.81	5.51	-0.65
Tri-City_RGNL_A	85	39	64	3	0.40	2	15.03	-0.36	4.30	-0.61

DFN = Departure from Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) measured in inches.

Copyright 2012: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved

The USDA, NASS, Tennessee Field Office gratefully acknowledges contributions to this publication by:
 National Weather Service and the University of Tennessee's Extension.